



Digitech JamMan Stereo Potentiometer Replacement

How to replace a malfunctioning potentiometer in the Digitech JamMan Stereo looper pedal.

Written By: palako



INTRODUCTION

A heavy object fell on top of one of the knobs of my Digitech JamMan Stereo. The unit kept working, but the loop level was very low and I couldn't turn it up anymore.

I opened the unit and checked with a multimeter that the potentiometer controlled by the knob was not working. It felt like an easy desoldering/soldering job, so I thought I'd give it a shot myself. *Note: I am an amateur at this and my soldering skills are really poor.*

I contacted Digitech support service to see if I could figure out the exact part number to order a replacement, but instead they just sent it to me, both the potentiometer and the knob, and didn't even charge me for it. Very nice people, excellent support service.

Step 1 — Assess the damage



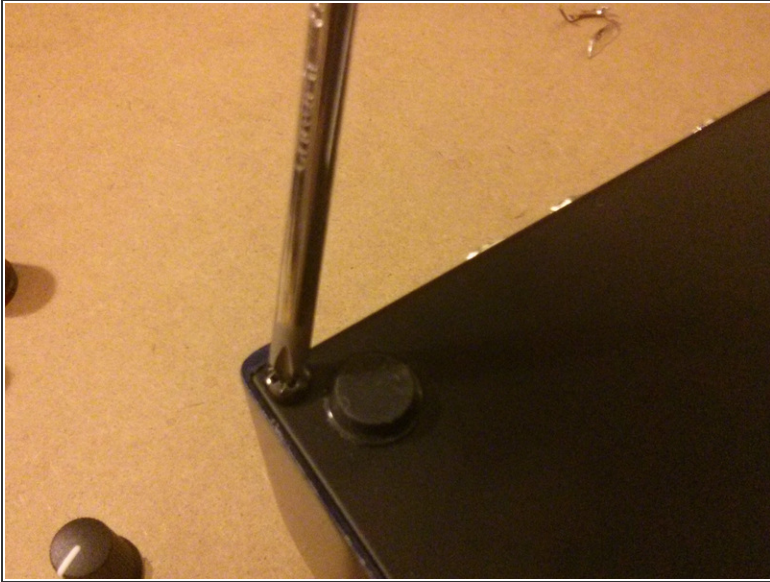
- Each knob in the unit controls a potentiometer inside. The picture shows the loop level knob cracked.
- Besides the unit is the new potentiometer and knob that will replace the broken ones.

Step 2 — Remove the knobs



- To separate the top and bottom parts of the enclosure, all the knobs need to come off.
- The knobs are held by pressure; pull to remove them, or use a small screwdriver as a lever.

Step 3 — Unscrew the bottom part of the enclosure



- Remove the four screws at the corners.
- Remove the screw at the center of the bottom plate.

Step 4 — Separate the top and bottom parts of the enclosure



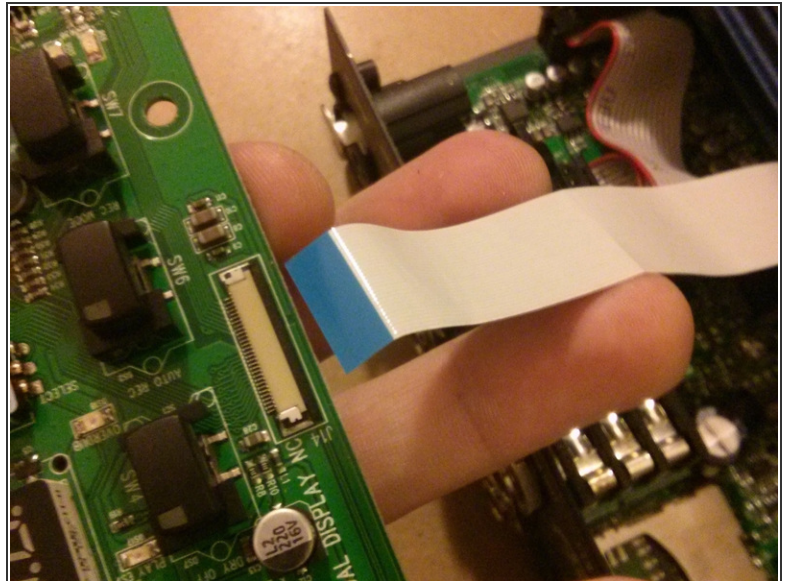
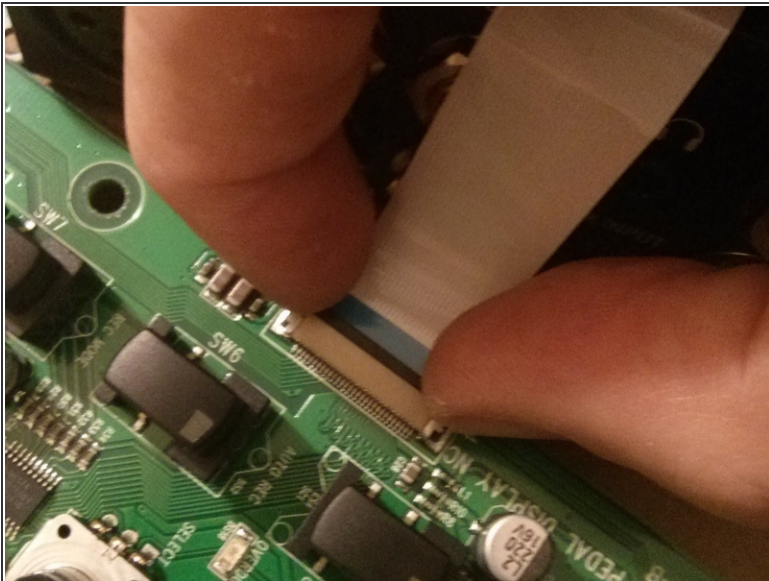
- To separate the enclosure parts, use a small screw driver as a lever.

Step 5 — Unscrew the board with the potentiometers from the enclosure



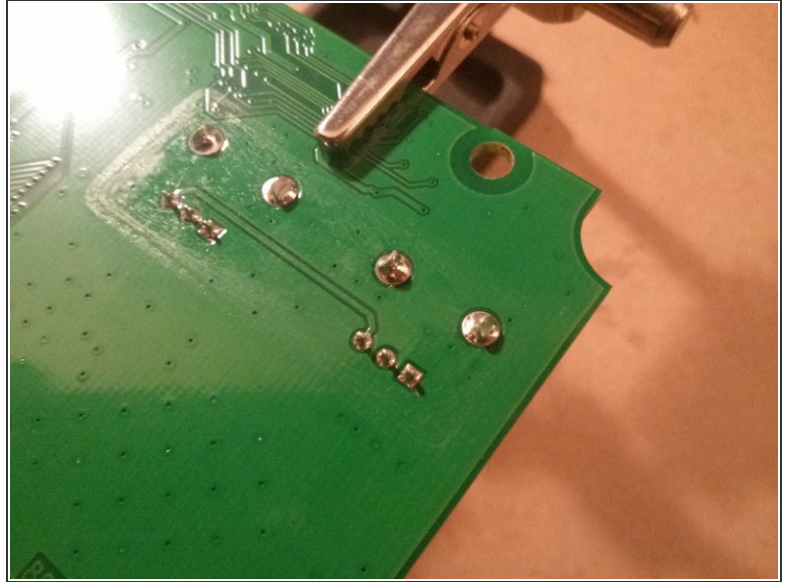
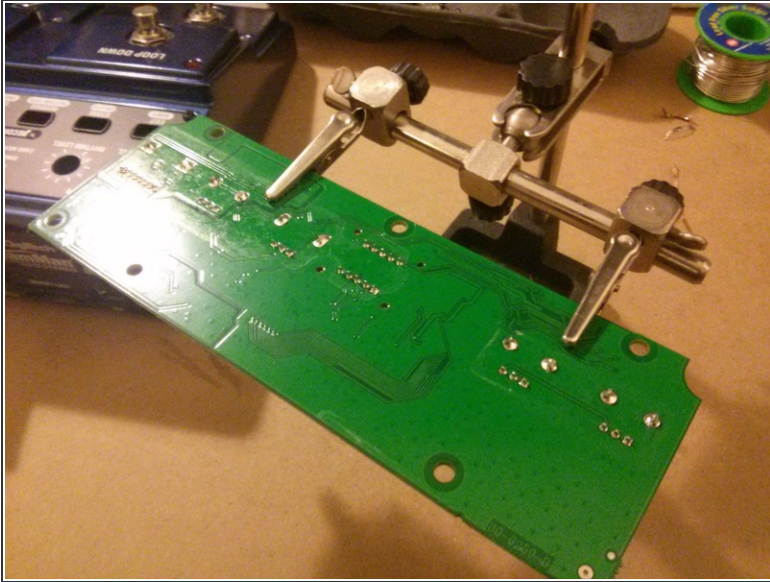
- Slide the top part of the enclosure enough to access the five screws that you'll need to remove.

Step 6 — Disconnect the cable



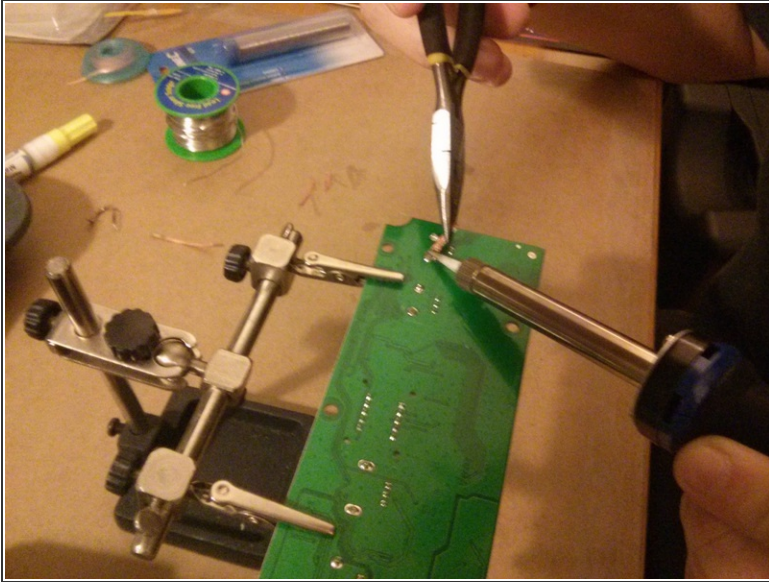
- This is a delicate cable that can be broken if not handled carefully.
- First, pull slightly the black plastic part of the connector. It only slides a little bit, enough to let the cable loose.
- Pull the cable from the connector. The black plastic is **not** part of the cable, it stays on the board.

Step 7 — Prepare for desoldering



- Time to desolder. A soldering clamp is always a handy tool for the job.
- Pay attention when flipping the board, make sure you know the potentiometer you want to work on. Double check, and triple before desoldering!

Step 8 — Desolder the potentiometer



- The parts to desolder are very small, I find it easier to cut a small piece of desoldering wick and handle it with pliers.
- Apply a bit of flux to the wick to help it absorb the solder from the joints.

Step 9 — Check the damaged part



- After i removed the pot, I cracked it open it to see how was it actually damaged.
- *As mentioned in the intro, it was a heavy object that fell on top of the knob that caused this.*

Step 10 — Before reassembling



- Before reassembling, check with a multimeter that all connections are good and that there are no shorts between the pins of the new part.

To reassemble your device, follow these instructions in reverse order.

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